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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

# INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

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COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 10 February 1953

**SUBJECT** The Increase in 1952 Capital Investment Funds  
for the Sulfuric Acid Manufacturing Industry.

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1. On 4 September the State Planning Commission decided to make additional funds from the plan reserves available to the Ministry of Smelting and Mining for capital investment in enterprises under HV Metallurgie with the purpose of increasing the planned 1952 sulfuric acid production.

2. The Ministry of Smelting and Mining was to receive a total of 970,000 east  
marls, which was to be allocated as follows:

Mansfeld-Kombinat Wilhelm Pieck  
Huettenwerk Muldenhuetten

200,000 east. marls  
779,000 east marls

- At the instigation of the head of the Planning Commission, the Ministry examined the investment projects with the object of speeding up the completion of the sulfuric acid rush production program. In order to do so it was necessary to advance all items in the second construction stage, planned for 1953, the completion of which might be possible in 1952.

In order to fully employ the existing sulfuric acid contact installations at the Hettstedt silver works in Mansfeld-Kombinat, the converter gas from the Bessener plant was to be enriched with pure sulfur by burning. A large part of the equipment for the sulfur burning plant which was to be built for this purpose (estimated total cost 1,200,000 east marks) was to be ordered and the skeleton of the building was to be about 50 percent completed in 1952. The amount of 200,000 east marks was made available for this purpose.

5. The sulfuric acid plant planned for Muldenhuettten was to produce sulfuric acid after the contact process from sulfurous pyrites from the Himmelfahrt-Fundgrube, Freiberg, as well as sulfur dioxide gases from lead concentrates. The project was to be carried out in two construction stages, 1952 and 1953.

6. A total of 497,000 east marks was to be used for the first construction stage, which was in 1952. Because the arsenic content of the sulfurous pyrites was found to be eight percent instead of the originally estimated three percent, the problem changed and a considerable extension of the roasting installation equipment was necessary. An additional sum was necessary for the extra basic costs which would arise from the new equipment and from the construction of a condensation plant.

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7. After a careful examination and talks with the supplying plants, it was thought possible to obtain 252,000 east marks more in 1952 from the sum set aside for the second stage of the construction program. By doing this it was hoped to have a head start on the early exploitation of the entire capacity of the contact installation.

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